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celeb buzz Pg27

Boy George opens up about drugs

Attack clouds Games

16 policemen dead after terrorist assault in northwestern China

With China's anti-terrorist resources concentrating on Beijing, subversive groups might be on the hunt for softer targets, some analysts suggest following yesterday's brazen attack in which 16 police officers were killed.

China has assigned a 100,000-strong security force to blanket the Olympics and had its national security teams on heightened alert. As a consequence, yesterday's attack in northwestern Xinjiang province was not only a human tragedy but a bitter blow for a nation about to take to the world stage.

Chinese authorities identified the two men arrested as members of the ethnic minority Uighur group. State media reported their ages to be 28 and 33 but would not release their names.

The attack, though 3,000 kilometres from the site of the Beijing Games, shook Olympic and government officials, who had promised to make the Games and national security a top priority.

"We have strengthened security in all Olympic venues and in the Olympic village," Beijing Organizing Committee spokesperson Sun Weide assured reporters yesterday. "We are well-prepared to deal with any kinds of threats."

Different accounts

- State media delivered different accounts yesterday, but one said a truck plowed through as many as 70 police.
- One account said one man lost an arm when a grenade detonated early. Another said one attacker sustained a severe leg injury.

The attack occurred yesterday about 8 a.m. local time, just four days before the Games' opening ceremonies at which more than 100 heads of state and dignitaries are to attend.

Some members of the Uighur minority, fighting under the wing of a group identified as the East Turkestan Islamic Movement, have waged a low-intensity battle for decades in northwest Xinjiang province seeking to create an independent Turkestan state.

Regional security officials said they had obtained advance intelligence that the radical Islamist group known as the East Turkestan Islamic Movement was planning attacks against China in the week, just before Friday's start of the Olympic Games.

But they did not say where such attacks were expected.

Sixteen other police were also wounded in the incident, which took place in the city of Kashgar.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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DNA link may lead to earlier cancer detection

Beijing Games page 13

Swimmer aims for gold medal

Going Green page 14

Federal act shows the way

World page 7

Austrian father may face slavery, murder charges

TONY ZIMMERMAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bernice Sampson, mother of seven-year-old Katelynn Sampson, is supported by her niece Jennifer States outside Old City Hall courthouse yesterday. Katelynn was found dead in a Parkdale apartment Sunday with some signs of trauma.

Kid's death spurs agency review

A native family services agency is reviewing its records to determine whether it played a part in placing seven-year-old Katelynn Sampson in the care of her accused killer.

"I'm still beginning my own review of my agency with respect to what our relationship was with this family and what the nature of our services were," Kenn Richard, executive director of Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, said yesterday.

Sampson was found dead in an apartment in the Queen Street West and Lansdowne Avenue area early Sunday shortly after her legal guardian Donna Irving, 29, called 9-1-1 and claimed the little girl had stopped breathing while choking on food.

"I'm still beginning my own review of my agency with respect to what our relationship was with this family."
Kenn Richard of Native Child and Family Services

Irving was arrested and charged with second-degree murder after Toronto EMS arrived and saw signs of trauma on the victim's body that contradicted the story.

Homicide Det.-Sgt. Steve Ryan said Irving — who has a criminal record that involves "some violence," he said — had been granted sole custody of Sampson through family court in January of this year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Freeman in hospital after crash

CELEBRITY Oscar-winning actor Morgan Freeman was hospitalized in serious condition yesterday after the car he was driving left a rural road in the Mississippi Delta and flipped several times.

Freeman, 71, was airlifted to the Regional Medical Center in Memphis, Tenn., about 145 kilometres north of the accident in rural Tallahatchie County.

The actor "has a broken arm, broken elbow and minor shoulder damage, but is in good spirits," according to a statement from Donna Lee, Freeman's publicist.

Morgan Freeman

"He is having a little bit of surgery this afternoon or tomorrow to help correct the damage," Lee's statement said. "He says he'll be OK and is looking forward to a full recovery."

Freeman, who won an Oscar for his role in Million Dollar Baby, and a companion were travelling on a dark, two-lane highway that cuts through the expansive farmlands of the Mississippi Delta when the car ran off the side of the road shortly before midnight Sunday, authorities said. The vehicle flipped several times but landed upright in a ditch, about eight kilometres west of Charleston, not far from where Freeman owns a home with his wife.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Parking officer under investigation
The provincial police watchdog is investigating an altercation between a parking enforcement officer and a Toronto man that sent the man to hospital. Police say the parking enforcement officer was investigating a vehicle parked on a Toronto street early yesterday morning. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local

Tourism boost

An estimated one million revellers turned out to watch 12,000 performers for this year's Caribana parade on Saturday. Organizers said the attendance was slightly less than last year's turnout of 1.2 million people. Tourism Toronto expects Caribana will pump at least $250 million into Toronto's economy.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Tomorrow's Metro

Helsinki bound?

Metro news correspondents offer the essential guide if you are planning a trip to the capital of Finland.

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Read Allan Small's investment advice, a recap of the weekend's Lollapalooza music festival in Chicago, and reviews of the video games Overlord: Raising Hell and NCAA Football 09
Watch MetroTube of the Day – video you need to see
Play online Sudoku!

News in brief

CHARGES Ontario Provincial Police say they will have laid at least 5,000 driving-related charges on the long weekend — including about 150 for street racing — when numbers are officially compiled today.

WANTED A Canada-wide warrant has been issued for Joseph King, 44, who is wanted for second-degree murder in connection with the stabbing of 45-year-old Andre Paquet on Sunday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fast track to airport?

Plan would link Union Station, Pearson by high-speed rail

The province and a private-sector partner are reworking plans for a high-speed rail link between Union Station and Pearson airport in an attempt to satisfy naysayers.

"We have heard concerns expressed about the original Union-airport rail link proposal and the province is currently in discussions with SNC Lavalin to find ways that the airport-rail proposal can be changed to address a number of these concerns," Nicole Lippa-Gasparro, press secretary to Environment Minister John Gerretsen, told the Toronto Star.

"Both Mayor Miller and Premier McGuinty have stated that Toronto needs what most of the world's biggest cities have, which is a rail connection between the airport and downtown."
Spokesperson Nicole Lippa-Gasparro

The province and SNC Lavalin, the company that hopes to operate the service, began talks this summer. That, coupled with a new system to fast-track environmental approvals on transit projects, leads Mike Sullivan, chair of the Weston Community Coalition, to believe the project is fait accompli.

"It appears to be heading toward a non-stop train ... between Pearson and Union Station," Sullivan said. "I suspect that's what we're going to be faced with."

Premier Dalton McGuinty recently joined Mayor David Miller in endorsing the plan, bolstering Sullivan's belief the rail link is a foregone conclusion

"Both Mayor Miller and Premier McGuinty have stated that Toronto needs what most of the world's biggest cities have, which is a rail connection between the airport and downtown," Lippa-Gasparro said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cop comes under fire in parking lot

Police are searching for a group of men who opened fire at an undercover officer in a parking lot near Weston Road early yesterday morning.

An undercover officer followed a car of four or five men to the parking lot of a shopping centre on Weston Road, just south of Highway 401. The men got out of their cars around 3 a.m. and one of the men fired three or four shots at the officer, said Toronto police Staff Sgt. Bob Skinner.

The officer was not injured but his car was hit by one of the flying bullets.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Suspect

- The gunman is described as white or Hispanic with black, wavy, almost shoulder-length hair. He had an "unkempt" beard and was wearing shorts, running shoes and a white T-shirt with red stripes across his chest.

Class back in session

At Brampton's Roberta Bondar Public School, where summer vacation is just four weeks long and the other five weeks are sprinkled throughout the year, class is already back in session.

It's one of 11 schools across seven Ontario school boards with a "year-round" or "balanced calendar" that schedules the province's mandatory 194 teaching days into more balanced clusters.

Based on a body of research that shows many students — especially those in lower-income families, those with special needs and those who speak English as a second language — can forget much of what they learn over the summer, year-round schools scrap the long summer holidays designed 100 years ago so kids could help on the farm, and instead pace breaks throughout the year, as is common in Europe and Great Britain. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Polio fundraiser **You've got to hand it to him**

AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ramesh Ferris rides his hand-powered bicycle yesterday on Centre Island. Ferris has ridden more than halfway across Canada to raise funds and awareness for polio. He started in Victoria on April 12 and has travelled 4,700 kilometres so far and plans on finishing in Cape Spear, N.L.

Body pulled from Lake Ontario, foul play not suspected

An autopsy was to be performed today on the body of a man found in Lake Ontario at Bluffer's Park.

Passersby made the discovery about 10:45 a.m. yesterday.

Although investigators did not release the identity of the man, pending the post-mortem examination, they believe they know who he is and do not suspect foul play.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

End of the line for CN conductors

TRANSIT It was the final stop for departing CN train crews Friday after many conductors announced they had come to the end of the line on the commuter service.

GO has been replacing the CN engineers and conductors with Bombardier employees since June 2. The new crews won't be completely phased in until about February, but the number of trains running with Bombardier staff jumps significantly today to about half the 169 regular weekday trips.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man suffers minor injuries after stabbing

A man was taken to hospital after being punched and stabbed twice in the leg in a parking lot near Adelaide Street West and Widmer Street around 3 a.m. yesterday. He was treated and released from hospital with minor injuries. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Traffic safety blitz too short

InTransit

Ed Drass
transit@eddrass.com

Tickets issued
2008 vs. 2007

- During a 2008 transit-related safety blitz, police issued 3,975 tickets (vs. 2,790 in 2007) including:
- 1,452 for driving in HOV lanes (high-occupancy vehicle lanes) during prohibited times (1,220 in 2007);
- 1,326 for making prohibited turns that interfered with TTC vehicles (809 in 2007);

SOURCE: TORONTO POLICE SERVICE

The numbers are in for this year's attempt to coax road users into paying more attention around transit vehicles, and Toronto police issued significantly more tickets than in 2007.

The annual week-long "TTC safety etiquette" blitz began July 21 and motorists were caught doing things like using high-occupancy vehicle lanes at the wrong time or making turns that interfere with buses or streetcars.

Police traffic officers say the higher results are "off track" — although one measure was lower compared to the 2007 blitz: Tickets for passing open streetcar doors.

Safety isn't the only issue — transit vehicles can move faster when cars stay out of "diamond" lanes during peak hours or obey "no parking or stopping" rules.

Road users might lose some of their bad habits with prolonged enforcement, but our society doesn't make this a high priority. We might use more police or cameras to deal with traffic violations, but we don't.

The next big problem is walking, cycling or driving while listening to music or talking on the phone — some people are becoming more distracted and risking not only their safety but everyone else who shares the sidewalks and roads.

Ed Drass has a degree in urban studies from York University and regularly rides transit in the GTA.

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Washington foot may be linked to B.C. finds

A shoe with flesh and bones inside has been found on a Washington State beach. U.S. investigators have contacted the RCMP to see if the remains are linked to the five dismembered feet found on B.C. beaches in the past year. METRO CANADA

Canada

B.C. celebrates 150th birthday

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, along with B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell, participated yesterday in celebrations marking the province's 150th anniversary by calling B.C. a shining light that is helping guide the future of Canada. Thousands of people gathered on the front lawn of the legislature in Victoria for the celebrations, which included free performances by musicians, including Burton Cummings, Sarah McLachlan and Feist.

Cancer breakthrough

Genetic discovery may lead to earlier detection

Canadian researchers have uncovered a genetic anomaly in people with a higher-than-normal risk of developing cancer that could lead to a blood test for detecting their tumours early, when the disease is most treatable.

The discovery, which involved families with the rare inherited disorder Li-Fraumeni syndrome, could also have implications for understanding how various types of cancer arise in the broader population, the scientists say.

In a study led by Dr. David Malkin of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, researchers determined that individuals affected by LFS have greater variation in their DNA compared to those without the condition.

They found that people with LFS have an increase in what are known as copy number variations, or CNVs — the duplication or deletion of large segments of DNA. The study found that CNVs also exist in the blood DNA of LFS patients and may be passed from one generation to another.

Li-Fraumeni syndrome increases the probability of developing specific cancers in childhood and early adulthood.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Published online

- The study was published online yesterday by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Pride parade **Enza in Vancouver**

RAFE ARNOTT/FOR METRO CANADA

Metro columnist Enza Supermodel greets crowds along the Pride parade route Sunday afternoon in Vancouver.

Accused described as 'quiet'

A man accused of the gruesome beheading of a fellow passenger on a Greyhound bus in Manitoba has been described as a quiet and hard-working person by his former employer.

Pastor Tom Castor, who helped hire Vince Weiguang Li soon after he immigrated from China in 2004, said the man never showed any sign of emotional problems.

Li remains in custody and is due back in court today.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anderson ends KFC campaign

CELEBRITY One of B.C.'s biggest stars ended her public feud with fast-food giant KFC in Vancouver yesterday. Pamela Anderson rolled up to a KFC on Davie Street just after noon yesterday to mark the end of a Canadian campaign against KFC by the People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). "The colonel would be pleased to have Pamela Anderson support his new faux-fried chicken sandwich," said Nicole Matthews, a campaigner with PETA. Anderson has been among those attacking the fast-food restaurant for the past five years over the way its chickens are farmed and slaughtered.

JEFF HODSON/FOR METRO CANADA

News in brief

HISTORY RCMP spies infiltrated the women's movement in the early 1970s, monitoring marches and rallies to keep an eye on feminists including Rita MacNeil, historians claim.

ONLINE Gay and lesbian refugee claimants struggling to shed old-world views of their sexuality are turning to Facebook, the popular online social network, to prove their sexual orientation to immigration officials in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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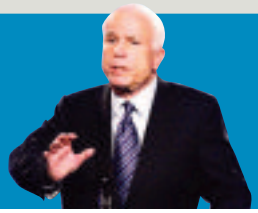
Emergency landings prompt new air safety measure
Australia's aviation agency launched a review of Qantas Airways' safety standards Sunday after a Manila-bound jetliner spraying hydraulic fuel made the airline's third high-profile emergency landing in eight days. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



McCain leading, poll shows

A daily Rasmussen tracking poll yesterday showed that U.S. Republican presidential candidate Senator John McCain, left, leads by one percentage point (47 to 46), the first time Senator Barack Obama had slipped behind since he tentatively secured the Democratic nomination at the beginning of June. A separate Gallup poll yesterday still gave Obama a three-point lead, a drop from a comfortable nine-point advantage a week ago.

Edouard headed for U.S. states

STORM Residents along the Texas and Louisiana coasts prepared yesterday for tropical storm Edouard, which was rolling through the warm waters of the Gulf and threatening to reach near-hurricane strength before making landfall. In Louisiana, Gov. Bobby Jindal declared a statewide emergency. The storm was expected to hit the regions early today.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Parents forget girl at airport

TRAVEL An Israeli couple going on a European vacation remembered to take their duty-free purchases and their 18 suitcases, but forgot their three-year-old daughter at Ben-Gurion airport, police said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

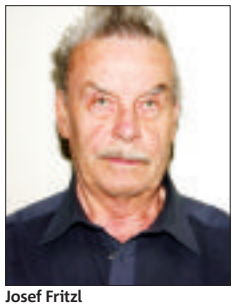
Charges looming

Austrian dad may be accused of slavery

The Austrian man who held his daughter captive for 24 years and fathered seven children with her may be charged with slavery, a prosecutor said yesterday.

St. Poelten prosecutor Gerhard Sedlacek also said authorities hope to have a series of formal charges ready by the end of September and that a trial would likely begin in December.

Investigators say Josef Fritzl confessed to taking his daughter Elisabeth prisoner when she was 18, sexually abusing her and fathering seven children with her, including one whose body he allegedly tossed into a furnace after it died. They say subsequent DNA tests confirmed he is the surviving children's biological father.


Josef Fritzl

Fritzl could face murder charges — and a life sentence — if there is enough evidence to prove the infant he allegedly incinerated could have survived after birth had it received proper medical care.

Sedlacek said investigators have finished questioning Elisabeth and are now awaiting a report by a doctor who has been asked to try to determine how the infant died.

The prosecution is also waiting for an expert opinion on Fritzl's psychological state, Sedlacek said.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Possible sentence
captive daughter case

- If found guilty of slavery, Fritzl could face 20 years behind bars.

News in brief

GITMO America's first war crimes trial since the Second World War went to the jury yesterday as a panel of six U.S. military officers began deliberating whether to send Osama bin Laden's former driver away for life.

SEARCH A helicopter plucked two frostbitten Dutch climbers from K-2 yesterday after an avalanche and exposure left at least 11 people presumed dead on the world's second-highest peak. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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General Motors posts third-worst loss in its history

General Motors Corp. posted a $15.5-billion US second-quarter loss Friday, the third-worst quarterly performance in the company's nearly 100-year history as North American sales plummeted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR (Friday)

Canadian dollar did not trade in Canada yesterday.

C$	$97.36 US
US$	$1.0271

OIL

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$3.69

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Restaurant kids' meals loaded with calories

FAST FOOD The U.S. Center for Science in the Public Interest found 93 per cent of 1,474 possible choices at the 13 top U.S. restaurant chains exceed 430 calories — an amount that is one-third of what is recommended that children ages four through eight should consume in a day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Day traders' return

Active traders make up third of volume

A growing number of Canadians are becoming "active traders," embracing volatile stock markets instead of shying away, say discount brokerages.

While active traders — those who buy or sell at least 10 times a month — make up only about 5 per cent of an estimated three million online accounts in Canada, they are responsible for about a third of overall trading volume.

Experts say recruits are getting on board because of vastly improved technology, a plethora of available research and sizable fee reductions in recent months. Most brokerages slashed fees to less than $10 a trade last fall.

TD Waterhouse is Canada's industry leader. The brokerage's retail trade volume is up nearly 35 per cent year over year based on data for the month of June. Gross new accounts are up 21 per cent during that period.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Active traders vs. day traders

- John See at TD Bank Financial Group says active traders are older, better-educated and wealthier than the day traders of the 1990s and have interest in fundamentals. Their demographic is also shifting to women and immigrants, particularly Chinese.

Pension fears rise as GM sputters

PROBLEMS As General Motors Corp. struggles with its massive financial problems, company pensioners and senior employees in Canada fear monthly payouts would be slashed dramatically if the auto giant goes into Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

Actuaries estimate GM's pension plan for 43,717 hourly rated employees, retirees and survivors in Canada would be short 43.5 per cent of the money needed to pay all pension promises if GM failed, based on estimates as of November 2006. If GM could make no further contributions, the deficiency would be $4.9 billion, or $112,000 per member.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canadian auto sales in top gear, reverse in U.S.

SALES Auto sales roared back in Canada last month but remained in reverse in the U.S.

In what one analyst described as "gravity defying," Canadian sales and leases climbed 5 per cent, or more than 7,000 vehicles, to 149,515 cars and trucks during July from the same month last year.

That's in sharp contrast to the U.S., where major players including GM, Toyota and Ford posted double-digit declines. Industry watchers said the contrasting numbers reflect a continuing tough economic climate in the U.S. and less turmoil in Canada.

Analyst Dennis DesRosiers also suggested lower prices and new incentives are responsible for the increase in Canada.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business in brief

ENERGY Oil prices plunged in a massive selloff yesterday, falling below $120 US a barrel at one point for the first time since May after tropical storm Edouard appeared unlikely to threaten oil and natural gas facilities in the Gulf of Mexico.

BATTERIES Sony Corp. will invest $372 million US to boost production of lithium-ion batteries amid growing global demand, hoping to expand output capacity to 74 million cells per month in 2010 from 41 million.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airfares

New York	Travel Aug 13-Aug 19/pd	$118 + $186 taxes & fees
Halifax	Travel Sep 5-Sep 11/wg	$129 + $180 taxes & fees
Fort Lauderdale	Travel Aug 30-Sep 6/5g	$179 + $189 taxes & fees
London	Travel Sep 27-Oct 4/ts	$249 + $448 taxes & fees
Amsterdam	Travel Sep 12-Sep 20/ts	$249 + $444 taxes & fees
Bangkok	Travel Sep 11-Sep 22/jl	$879 + $645 taxes & fees
Australia	Travel Aug 21-Sep 11/qf	$1488 + $439 taxes & fees

Canada & USA Holidays

ANAHEIM $399

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 3-star accommodation. Departs Sep 1/inf/ac.
ADD *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Bonus Tickets for $179 adult / $149 child.

Vancouver Island Fly & Drive $379 + $211 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare to Victoria and a 7-day car rental to explore Vancouver Island at your own pace. Departs Sep 1/inf/wg.
ADD a Victoria whale watching tour for $93.

European Holidays

Paris $883
Hôtel All Seasons Paris Bercy + $395 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and your first 2 nights 3-star accommodation in the Bercy District. Departs Aug 28/vat/ts.
ADD a *Da Vinci Code* walking tour for $32.

Madrid $1219
Comfort Suites + $347 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare to Madrid and 5 nights 3-star hotel accommodation with daily breakfast. Departs Oct 14/acv/ac. ADD a flamenco show at Torres Bermejas for $56.

Greece $1269
Mykonian Gem + $505 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, quayside and hotel transfers, 4 nights 3-star accommodation in Athens, 3 night Greek Island & Turkey cruise and some meals. Departs Aug 31/vat/ts.

Adventure Holidays

India $824
Tigers and Wildlife Adventure + local payment of $250USD
INCLUDES a 14-day small group tour visiting the Taj Mahal, Delhi, Mumbai and searching for tigers, panthers, spotted deer, sloth bears and more as you explore the best wildlife parks of India. ADD roundtrip airfare to India from $1199 plus taxes.

Australia's Outback $1090
Outback Discovery + local payment of $200AUD
INCLUDES a 7-day small group tour exploring some of Australia's natural wonders. Marvel at the sunset in Uluru and the massive rock formations of the Kata Tjuta and hike Kings Canyon. ADD a roundtrip Qantas Aussie Airpass with airfare to Alice Springs from $2199 plus taxes.

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Your Money

YOUR MONEY EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Anticipating the delights of tax-free saving accounts

SmartCookies

smartcookies.com

We'll admit we did a little happy dance when we heard the federal government will be offering tax-free savings accounts (TFSA) to taxpayers 18 years and older in 2009.

Let's be real — it's not every day our government introduces a new tax savings vehicle. You can be sure that we'll be some of the first in line to register and we think you should be, too.

With the introduction of tax-free savings accounts, the government hopes to motivate Canadians to contribute toward their savings. As of Jan. 1, 2009, Canadians will be able to deposit up to $5,000 each year into these new tax-free savings accounts. The accounts will enable individuals to save for future investments, perhaps a new home, car or child's education, and earn interest on these funds without being taxed on the earnings.

Similar to an RRSP, unused savings contributions can be carried forward to the next year. So if you don't contribute $5,000 one year, you can contribute more than $5,000 the next year. And, unlike an RRSP, Canadians will not be penalized for withdrawals. In fact, withdrawing funds will create space for future contributions — we love it!

We became even more excited when we started crunching the numbers and worked out the potential tax savings. Because the interest income earned within a TFSA will not be taxed, a Smart Cookie contributing $200 a month to a TFSA for 20 years will accumulate about $11,045 more in savings than if the investment had been made in a taxable savings account. We're sure you could find creative ways to put $11,000 to good use.

Already a number of major Canadian banks are gearing up to offer these tax-free savings accounts. For example, ING Direct, one of our favourite institutions for GICs and high-interest accounts, has begun promoting the top 10 benefits of the tax-free savings account. So if you weren't motivated to save before, you have less than six months to get ready to save and invest in a bright new future. As our friends at ING say, there's no such thing as savers' remorse.

Tune in Wednesday night at 9 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

InvestmentPerspective

Read this week's column at metronews.ca

The not-so-fine line between a hobby and a commercial enterprise

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong
choochonghcga@yahoo.ca

Q I've worked in retail for more than four years. However, my passion is photography. This year, I spent more than $3,000 on photographic equipment, which I used extensively on my last vacation. My boyfriend suggests I register a business and deduct these as costs. Is that possible? Teresa

A Expenses incurred for the purpose of earning business income may be deducted for tax purposes.

These would include such costs as advertising, office supplies, accounting and legal fees, auto expenses, material costs, etc.

A family trip to Disney and pictures with Mickey would not be deductible. Costs incurred in the enjoyment of an individual's hobby are not deductible for tax purposes. The act of registering a business in itself does not necessarily mean the entity qualifies as a business for tax purposes.

Those who pursue activities such as art, music, photography, writing and the like as hobbies should be diligent that their activities are commercial in nature if they're going to claim expenses.

"Costs incurred in the enjoyment of a hobby are not deductible for tax purposes."

Proper books and records are essential in making legitimate claims.

Here are some factors the tax courts may use in determining if expenses are legitimate claims:

- Expenses incurred for earning income;
- Reasonable expectation of profit;
- Intention of individuals;
- Time devoted to business enterprise;
- Capital utilized.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA provides professional accounting and taxation solutions, choochonghcga@yahoo.ca.

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Arroyo signs with Maccabi Tel Aviv

Point guard Carlos Arroyo, who spent the last two seasons with the Orlando Magic, has become the latest NBA player to bolt overseas, signing with an Israeli team. Arroyo, 29, signed a one-year deal with Maccabi Tel Aviv. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Vikes cleared of Favre tampering

The NFL season hasn't even started yet, and the Minnesota Vikings already have a victory over the Green Bay Packers under their belts. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell ruled yesterday that contact between the Vikings and Brett Favre, left, this summer did not violate league tampering rules, as the Packers alleged. Favre, who retired from football only to change his mind, was reinstated by the NFL and was expected to report to the Packers training camp yesterday.

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SPORTS EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Don't expect a golden Games

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

With apologies to world-champion kayaker Adam van Koeverden, and perhaps a few others in this country, there will be no gold medals for Canadians at the coming Olympics in Beijing.

So says Daniel K. N. Johnson, an economics professor from B.C. who devised a formula in 1999 that has enabled him to forecast with uncanny accuracy how countries will fare at the Olympics.

Johnson is predicting Canada will finish 16th in Beijing. Before the Athens Olympics in 2004, he predicted the United States would win 103 medals, including 37 golds. The U.S. team wound up with exactly 103 medals, 35 of which were gold. His formula's overall medal accuracy exceeds 94 per cent.

Johnson, who teaches at Colorado College, uses a formula that considers per-capita income, population, climate, political structure and home-nation advantage.

"We use no information about athletes, about their training programs, about how they've done in previous games," Johnson said. "It's just pure economics."

His formula's success rate has beaten "every bookie on the market," he said. "It's beaten Sports Illustrated and all the Olympic committees, national and international. It surprises even us that such a simple model performs so very well."

- Ron Lancaster was a great CFL quarterback but he also smoked a lot and, sadly, we're told he's battling lung cancer. He personally asked former Tiger-Cat assistant coach John Salavantis to replace him recently as Hamilton's radio analyst … Speaking of the Ticats, don't be surprised if Charlie Taaffe is replaced as their head coach if his team loses to the Toronto Argonauts Thursday … And don't be surprised also if Doug Berry is out as the Blue Bombers' head coach if Winnipeg loses to the Montreal Alouettes Friday. … Both Hamilton and Winnipeg are three-point underdogs at home this week … And how the heck did referee Jake Ireland make yet another blunder by believing Calgary linebacker JoJuan Armour deliberately knocked down an umpire early in the Stampeders' loss Saturday? How could Ireland eject Armour? Isn't it time for the CFL to eject Ireland? Permanently?
- ESPN's E.J. Hradek on the Vancouver Canucks: "They're going nowhere. (New general manager) Mike Gillis doesn't know what he's doing."
- Rogers Sportsnet's and CBC's Rance Mulliniks on ex-superstar Carl Yastrzemski: "He literally carried the Boston Red Sox on his back in 1967."

Literally? Man, they must have been heavy.

When will the networks pull the plug on Mulliniks? He's almost as embarrassing to them as Ireland is to the CFL.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

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David Eckstein, Shortstop.

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Smith returns to Panthers training camp

A subdued Steve Smith apologized to his Carolina Panthers' teammates, coaches and fans yesterday, three days after he punched teammate Ken Lucas at practice, leaving the starting cornerback with a broken nose that will require surgery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Halladay shuts down A's

BLUE JAYS 6 ATHLETICS 1

With ace Roy Halladay on the mound, the Toronto Blue Jays were not about to let another big lead slip away.

After watching his team blow 4-0 and 6-0 leads in a pair of losses in Texas against the hard-hitting Rangers this past weekend, a sharp Halladay reaped the benefits of an early lead in a 6-1 win against the free-falling Oakland A's last night before a crowd of 24,761 at the Rogers Centre.

Staked to a 5-0 lead after a four-run third inning, Halladay (13-8) allowed just four hits in eight innings to lift the Jays (56-56) to .500 for the 17th time this year.

Meanwhile, the floundering A's (53-58) extended their losing streak to a season-high seven games and dropped to a pathetic 2-16 in their past 18 games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Blue Jays' David Eckstein, left, slides in to score as the ball gets away from Oakland A's catcher Kurt Suzuki in the eighth inning at last night's game in Toronto. The Jays beat the A's 6-1.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
TORONTO 6 Oakland 1
Cleveland at Tampa Bay
N.Y. Yankees at Texas
Boston at Kansas City
Baltimore at L.A. Angels
Minnesota at Seattle

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Houston at Chicago Cubs
Milwaukee at Cincinnati
Washington at Colorado
Pittsburgh at Arizona
Atlanta at San Francisco

CFL

WEEK 6
FRIDAY'S RESULT
TORONTO 19 Winnipeg 11
SATURDAY'S RESULT
Saskatchewan 22 Calgary 21

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:
SUNDAY'S GAME
FC Dallas 2 TORONTO, 0

LOTTERIES

Ontario Pick 3	0 1 6
Ontario Pick 4	0 7 4 6
Encore	4315191
Daily Keno	8, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 26, 27, 30, 33, 40, 41, 47, 53, 57, 59, 62, 63, 65. Results not official

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→ September 6, 2008: Last day adult tickets are sold at TTC Collector Booths
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www.ttc.ca 416-393-INFO

Women's soccer team takes to the field
The Canadian women's soccer team take on Argentina at 5 a.m. tomorrow to open their medal bid. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Hayden eyes gold medal

B.C. swimmer hoping to make a splash at Olympics

MARTY YORK
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Only one Canadian, we're told, has any shot whatsoever of making a big splash in the swimming pool at the Olympic Games in Beijing.

He's a world champion — Brent Hayden of Mission, B.C. — but, frankly, we can't even be overly optimistic about his chances.

"He should make the final," says Byron MacDonald, CBC's swimming analyst, "but I don't think he'll reach the podium."

So how can a 24-year-old world champion in the prime of his career not be a medal favourite?

Well, first, let's clarify: Hayden is the world's co-champion, because he and Italy's Fillippo Magnini were co-winners of the men's 100-metre freestyle race during last season's world championships. Second, Hayden's best time of 48.30 would only place him ninth in the world at this point. And, third, Hayden suffered a back injury, which has slowed him down — at least a bit.

And you wouldn't believe how he was hurt. It wasn't in a pool or in a gym; it happened while he was modelling for a photo shoot (he was promoting the Speedo LZR suit).

"All the hours of posing," he said. "The back just tightened up on me."

While he still competed at the Canadian Olympic trials in April and won his 100-metre freestyle race, Hayden was rushed afterward to hospital, where tests revealed a small, nerve-touching bulge in a lower-back disk.

Training has been difficult for him since, but he insists he's ready for the Olympics. Even his asthma doesn't discourage him: "There'll be no excuses," he said. "I'm going for gold."

As soon as he got gold at the 2007 world championships in Australia, Hayden became recognized as the one Canadian swimmer with a legitimate chance to earn an individual medal in Beijing. He is also a podium threat with the rest of the men's 4x200-metre freestyle team.

The pressure's on, but "my relaxed attitude keeps me grounded," he said. "I want to win a medal and I'm not worried about what other people expect."

Hayden has overcome adversity before.

Shortly before his accomplishments in Australia, his grandfather died.

"It was really hard trying not to cry in my interviews because I knew I wasn't going to see him when I got home," he said.

And shortly after swimming in the Olympics in Athens four years ago, Hayden inadvertently walked into a street demonstration while out on the town and wound up being beaten by Greek police officers.

"I saw a psychologist because of that," he said. "It took me months to get over it.

"When I tried to get back into training, I'd have mental breakdowns and would start crying."

He hopes to be crying tears of joy in Beijing.

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

World champion Brent Hayden, of Mission, B.C., suffered a back injury in the winter. But that's not going to keep him from trying to win a gold medal in Beijing, he says.

Fencer's doping test confirmed

SAMPLE A backup sample taken from fencer Andrea Baldini came back positive for a banned substance, confirming the doping case that cost the Italian his Olympic dream. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tomorrow's lineup

NO EXCUSES Adam van Koeverden isn't suggesting carrying his country's colours will be detrimental to his success. Pick up tomorrow's Metro for more.

3 days remain until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

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Tories may be overestimating plan: Report

The Harper government might be overestimating how much its climate-change plan will lower greenhouse gases, said the National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Going Green

GOING GREEN EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

A step in right direction

ScienceMatters

David Suzuki & Dr. Faisal Moola

Canada's Federal Sustainable Development Act, which became law in late June, is a bold step toward ensuring that governments live up to their environmental commitments.

The David Suzuki Foundation has long advocated for such a law, grounded in basic environmental science. The foundation helped draft the original bill, which was based on our report Sustainability Within a Generation, written by environmental lawyer and professor David Boyd. The bill was introduced in Parliament by retiring Liberal MP John Godfrey.

I'm happy to finally see the government listing the environment right up there with the economy. I felt the same in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio with Agenda 21, a massive plan to get the world onto a sustainable path. Unfortunately, a recession knocked out all that goodwill. Let's hope this time for courageous political leadership in implementing and enforcing the law.

The act, which applies to the policies and programs of all departments as well as a number of federal agencies, requires the government to produce a revised strategy every three years. And it establishes an advisory council that includes the provinces, business, First Nations, environmental groups, and labour.

That's the kind of co-operation we need if we are to solve our many environmental problems. Of course, it doesn't let the government completely off the hook. We still need more action on global warming, including a stronger commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. And we need to ensure the government takes the law seriously and doesn't just pay it lip service, as it has with our signing of the Kyoto Protocol.

At least it provides for more accountability and transparency — and includes incentives.

Parliament often seems like a place for acrimonious argument and name-calling rather than a venue for rational discussion, but in getting together to draft, discuss and support the passage of this important law, politicians from across the Canadian political spectrum have shown there is a better way to find solutions.

Take David Suzuki's Nature Challenge and learn more at www.davidsuzuki.org.

Dr. David T. Suzuki is a Vancouver-based award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster.

Environment at forefront

- The law's wording puts the environment at the forefront: "The Government of Canada accepts the basic principle that sustainable development is based on an ecologically efficient use of natural, social and economic resources and acknowledges the need to integrate environmental, economic and social factors in the making of all decisions by government."

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Cape Farewell teaches youth about climate change
Twenty-eight high school students from seven countries, including 16 from Canada, will embark on a two-week Arctic adventure in a Russian research vessel as part of the Cape Farewell Youth Expedition. The goal of the program is to educate youth about climate change. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

No Friday classes?

Soaring gas prices are forcing U.S. colleges to drop Friday from class schedules so commuting students can save money and remain enrolled, and also fulfelling a trend in schools offering Friday-only classes as a retention tool. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Smaller scope for Little Gym

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

By helping kids gain confidence and learn valuable life skills through physical activity, Gary and Sarah Shouldis are hoping to bring a tried-and-true program to Toronto. They're also putting everything on the line to do it.

Gary, 34, took early retirement from his job as a New York City firefighter and Sarah, 33, left hers as an elementary school teacher to open The Little Gym of Vaughan, a gym that specializes in serving children 12 years old or younger to teach them the benefits of physical activity and gain the confidence they need as a foundation to succeed.

Together, Gary and Sarah packed up a life in New York to bring their family, which includes two young daughters and a third one on the way, to Toronto to run The Little Gym.

"We are starting all over again. We've put everything into it. To make the jump to entrepreneur is scary, but it's exciting. This is it — this is our future," Gary Shouldis said.

The Little Gym has already been successful in the United States, where the organization was started in Arizona in 1976. At the time, its insistence that physical activity was necessary to not only keep kids healthy but to maximize development of their brains was seen as revolutionary. The gym's programs focus on balance, rhythm, co-ordination, flexibility as well as listening, emotional, social and intellectual skills.

Gary and Sarah Shouldis.

"We've put everything into it ... This is it — this is our future."
Entrepreneur
Gary Shouldis

The Toronto chapter's flagship location near the Vaughan Mills shopping mall at Highway 400 and Rutherford Road, still being renovated in time for its September opening, is only the beginning as Gary and Sarah hold the rights to any further franchises throughout Toronto as well. They plan to start franchising within a year (*tlgvaughan-can.com*).

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• Make sure to check out Metro's Workology section every Tuesday for more start-up business stories.

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Canada

UWO partners with NASA

NASA's Lunar Science Institute announced that the University of Western Ontario will be its first international partner. UWO will represent the Canadian lunar science community as part of the new Canadian Network for Lunar Science Exploration. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Seaweed can beautify, but it tastes great, too

OddJobs

Diane Peters

Nine years ago, Diane Bernard decided to launch her own business. But what? The expert in criminology, who's now 56, would sit on the shore near her home in Sooke, B.C., chewing seaweed and thinking of a concept that incorporated the coastal, natural world.

She chewed seaweed as she walked through the forest, checking out wild plants with product potential. She gnawed on more seaweed during fact-finding meetings with businesspeople.

She began gardening, and tried using seaweed as a fertilizer. In a chat with a chef one day, she idly mentioned seaweed. "Wow, that's different!" was the response.

Soon after, she was lugging pails of the green stuff into high-end kitchens and chefs used it for wraps and sauces. She got a seaweed harvesting permit that covered 69 kilometres of shoreline, began reading up on this amazing ocean plant (400 varieties on the Pacific coast; fastest growing plant in the world) and spent most days between March 21 and Sept. 21 on the water.

She'd go out at low tide with rubber boots, a backpack, a walking stick and a knife, hook or pair of scissors. Seaweed anchors itself to rocks with a holdfast and if you cut it instead of yanking it up, it will grow back. She'd taste as she went and would pile 30 pounds of harvest on her back. With rough waters at her feet and such a heavy load, it was physically gruelling work. And since storms could rise up quickly and even in summer the water was extremely cold, it was also dangerous.

Bernard loved the taste of seaweed. But the rest of the Canada? Not so much. With just a handful of local chefs buying her low-priced product, she brought in a mere $5,000 her first year in business.

Then, in 2002, a hotel chef introduced her to the manager of the adjacent spa. Bernard knew this was it. She started talking with spa managers. They loved the idea of seaweed products and told her how the industry worked.

Bernard created her first Seaflora Skincare product that year: A seaweed and B.C. glacial clay body wrap. Now, she's got 26 products and seven full-time employees.

She also has a team of part-timers who harvest from shore or on her five boats. Bernard still spends a lot of time on the water: Observing the seaweed in winter months, doing water quality tests twice a year, helping with the harvest or running her seaweed coastal tours.

Bernard sells her certified organic, all-Canadian product line with reassurances that seaweed does wonders for the skin. But she still loves to chew on the stuff. Sure, it's full of vitamins and minerals, but it tastes great, too: Some varieties resemble zucchini, while others have an herbal flavour. "It's a total surprise in the mouth, in a good way."

The Lowdown

Job title: Seaweed harvester
Salary: "I pay them a good wage."
Education: A degree in marine biology or just a good understanding of the ocean — she hires surfers and former fishermen.
Best part of the job: "Running the seaweed tours. Watching people change their knowledge of the coastline."
Worst part of the job: "The ocean's constantly there, and it's hard for me to get away from my work. I live on the coast and I'm always looking out at the water and thinking: 'The tide's out, the seaweed's there.'"

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

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Herzing College Pharmacy Technician graduates may work in drug stores, hospitals, senior residences, research laboratories and medical centres. The Pharmacy Technician program is 12 months in length including a 2 month practical placement. Students report that they like the clean working environment and helping people.

Canada gets a "B" in education
In a report, the Conference Board of Canada gave the country a "B" in education and skills, down from last year's "A." While Canada boasts a strong high school graduation rate and its PSE completion is the best among 17 peer nations, about 40 per cent of working-age adults have low literacy skills. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Active kids excel in academic pursuits

With the end of summer looming, parents may consider decreasing the number of activities their child participates in to ensure their child can focus on academics. However, a recent survey conducted by Ipsos-Reid on behalf of Kumon Math and Reading Centres has found that children that are engaged in extracurricular activities experience academic benefits beyond their less-active counterparts.

According to responses from more than 1,200 Canadian parents, the number of nights a student participates in extracurricular activities does not negatively impact academic performance. Of those parents surveyed whose child participates in extracurricular activities on two or more school nights, 84 per cent were identified by their parents as academically at or above average grade level.

"Extracurricular activities are important. They challenge children to explore their talents and interests, develop responsibility, and encourage time management skills as students learn to balance schoolwork, extracurricular activities and social life," explains Dr. Donna McGhie-Richmond, education specialist with Kumon Math and Reading Centres.

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Depression seen in brain proteins

Certain proteins in the brains of depressed people who committed suicide are "more highly expressed" than those in people who died suddenly from heart attacks and other causes, researchers said last week. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health

Sleep disorder 'erodes' health

People with the severe form of a disorder that interferes with sleep are several times more likely to die from any cause than are folks without apnea, researchers report in Friday's edition of the journal Sleep. The findings in the 18-year study confirm smaller studies that have indicated an increased risk of death for people with apnea, also known as sleep-disordered breathing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALTH EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Going gets rough

Bladder infections can be more prevalent in summer

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

Do you feel like you have to pee all the time? You're certainly not alone. You may have a bladder infection or an infection in another part of your urinary tract (urethra, ureters or kidneys).

Urinary tract infections are a common problem in women, and may be more prevalent in the summer.

"UTIs can arise if you're dehydrated, and there is definitely more dehydration in the summer months," says Dr. Dan Ezekiel, a family doctor in Vancouver. These infections often occur in women after sex and "maybe there is more sex going on in the summer," surmises Ezekiel.

"UTIs can arise if you're dehydrated, and there is definitely more dehydration in the summer months."
Dr. Dan Ezekiel

Signs of a UTI are: Burning sensation when you pee; needing to go pee often; feeling the urge to urinate even when you don't need to; leaking urine; blood in the urine; fever; feeling sick. If you have these signs, you should see a doctor, who can treat the infection with antibiotics and also rule out a more serious illness.

The best way to prevent UTIs is to drink plenty of fluids as they will help flush away the infection. Cranberry juice — especially the unsweetened kind found in health food stores — is useful in helping prevent these infections. Dr. Ezekiel also suggests cleaning your genital area well and/or douching after having intercourse.

Other tips, adapted from the College of Family Physicians of Canada website, include:

- Don't hold your urine; go to the bathroom as soon as you need to.
- After a bowel movement, wipe from front to back, as infection can spread from the anus to the urethra.
- Go pee right after having sex to help wash away bacteria.
- Try using a water-based lubricant, such as K-Y Jelly, during sex.
- Women who use a diaphragm are more susceptible to UTIs, so try a different method of birth control.

Two ways to prevent urinary tract infections are to drink plenty of fluids and to avoid holding your urine.

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Savoury salad helper
Unrefined olive oil (look for "extra virgin" on the label) makes a great base for salad dressings and is also safe for use in cooking. In recent years, research studies have shown low incidence of cardiovascular disease in southern Mediterranean regions, where consumption of olive oil is high. **ALIVE MAGAZINE**

Help is just a nail file and bottle of polish away

HineSight
Anne Hines

I've never understood paying a psychiatrist to explain what's wrong with me. I have relatives who will do that for free.

But if I'm feeling a little down I do spend an hour with a trained professional: Marni, my manicurist. When you're in Marni's chair, the only thing that might be blue is your polish.

Marni: "I dunno. Men. You can't live with them, you can't push them in front of a train. Ask my aunt. I told my fiancée I'm not going to work once we get married. Just sit home all day. You know what he said? 'That's OK by me honey.'

"What's that about? I'd go crazy staying in that apartment. I said, "I have to get out, you know. Women need to work, too." And he said, "If you want to work, that's OK." What am I supposed to do with that? He keeps changing his mind.

"Stick out your tongue. Oh that's bad. I read an article. You're not eating enough liver. Or too much. One or the other. I've got a recipe. Put a chicken liver in a pan with the claws and beak and everything. You know, like usual.

"Add mugwort. Whatever kind you got, you don't need the fancy type. Cook it over low, medium low, high heat. Take that look right out of your tongue. And if you got any left, you can use it to clean your countertop. Works perfect.

"If I'm feeling a little down I do spend an hour with a trained professional: Marni, my manicurist."
Writer Anne Hines

"What colour you want today? Not pink. You're a Leo. Pink isn't good for Leos. If you were Gemini you could have pink, no problem. For Leo, wearing pink saps your power. I read an article. Orange. That's your power colour. Makes you virile. Or maybe agile. Either way it's good, eh?

"My fiancée is giving me trouble. Keeps wanting to get married. I said we'll get married when we've been together a little longer. So far? Eight years. I don't want to rush into anything, you know? Today marriages last 22 years. I read an article. So, we get married when we're 60, then no divorce. Who's got the energy to get divorced when they're 82? I mean besides my aunt, but she ate a ton of liver, you know?

"OK, all done. Next time we'll do a pedicure. Women who get pedicures never have depression. It's true. I read an article."

And you know what? I believe her.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

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Keane achieves Perfect Symmetry

Keane have announced details of their new album. The trio said it has experimented on Perfect Symmetry, the band's third studio LP. It's due out Oct. 13. **ANANOVA.COM**

Entertainment

Thriller

Nicolas Cage, left, and director John Carpenter are to team up for a prison thriller, Scared Straight. Filming is to start in October.

Ananova.com

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Bale's Batman too raspy?

Though The Dark Knight has been a bona fide cultural event, boasting rave reviews and boffo box office numbers, it hasn't been immune to criticism. Some have quibbled with its political undercurrents, and others have criticized a muddled theme.

But here's the critique most widely heard: Why does Batman talk like the offspring of Clint Eastwood and a grizzly bear?

Donning the costume for the second time, Christian Bale has delved deeper into the lower registers. As Bruce Wayne, his voice is as smooth as his finely pressed suits. But once he puts on the cape, the transformation of his vocal chords is just as dramatic as his costume change.

It's worth considering, however, where the concept of a throaty Batman comes from.

In his portrayal on the '60s Batman TV series, Adam West didn't alter his voice between Bruce Wayne and Batman. Decades later when Tim Burton brought Batman to the big screen in a much darker incarnation, Michael Keaton's inflection was notably — but not considerably — different from one to the other.

But it was a lesser-known actor who, a few years after Burton's film, made perhaps the most distinct imprint on Batman's voice. Kevin Conroy, as the voice of the animated Batman in various projects from 1992's Batman: The Animated Series right up until this year's Batman: Gotham Knight, brought a darker, raspier vocalization to Batman.

As Batman has become darker, his voice has deepened. As some critics suggest, Bale and The Dark Knight may have reached a threshold, at least audibly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Dark Knight sits firm at the top of the box office.

Box office

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theatres, according to Media By Numbers LLC.:

1. **The Dark Knight** $43.8 million US
2. **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** $43.8 million
3. **Step Brothers** $16.3 million
4. **Mamma Mia!** $13.1 million
5. **Journey to the Center of the Earth** $6.9 million
6. **Swing Vote** $6.3 million
7. **Hancock** $5.2 million
8. **WALL-E** $4.7 million
9. **The X-Files: I Want to Believe** $3.4 million
10. **Space Chimps** $2.8 million

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Fun Sun VACATIONS

Bernie Mac in hospital
Comedian Bernie Mac is in a Chicago hospital with pneumonia. His publicist, Danica Smith, said in a statement that the 50-year-old comedian is responding well to treatment and should be released soon. NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Applegate has cancer

Christina Applegate is getting treatment for breast cancer, but the disease was caught early and the actress is expected to fully recover, her publicist said.

The Emmy winner's cancer was detected through an MRI ordered by a doctor and is not life-threatening, publicist Ame Van Iden said in a statement Saturday.

Applegate is scheduled to appear on a one-hour television special, Stand Up To Cancer, to be aired on ABC, CBS and NBC on Sept. 5 to raise funds for cancer research.

The 36-year-old actress has been nominated for an Emmy and a Golden Globe for the show Samantha Who?, in which she plays a woman who wakes from a coma with no memory of who she is.

The show, which debuted last October, marked a return to series television for Applegate, who helped establish the Fox network in 1987 as ditzy teenager Kelly Bundy on Married ... With Children. The raunchy comedy ran 11 seasons and has been in syndication since.

NICK UT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I'm really grateful that acting is the job that was chosen for me," Applegate told The Associated Press in April. "I get really lost when I'm not working. I don't know what I'm supposed to do with myself.

"Thank God for dance class and the New York Times crossword puzzle and American Idol. But acting is what I really have to do."

Applegate won an Emmy as outstanding guest actress in a comedy series in 2003 for her role as one of Jennifer Aniston's younger sisters in Friends. She was nominated for a Tony in 2005 for the Broadway musical Sweet Charity.

Applegate began acting in films and television as a child and has appeared in such shows as Quincy, Family Ties and 21 Jump Street.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nobel Prize winner dies at age 89

WRITING Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the Nobel Prize-winning author whose books chronicled the horrors of the Soviet gulag system, has died of heart failure, his son said Sunday. He was 89.

Solzhenitsyn's unflinching accounts of the Soviet Union's slave labour camps riveted his countrymen, whose secret history he exposed. They earned him 20 years of exile, but international renown.

And they inspired millions, perhaps, with the knowledge that one person's courage could, in the end, defeat the totalitarian machinery of an empire.

Beginning with the 1962 novel One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, Solzhenitsyn devoted himself to describing what he called the human "meat grinder" that had caught him along with millions of other Soviet citizens.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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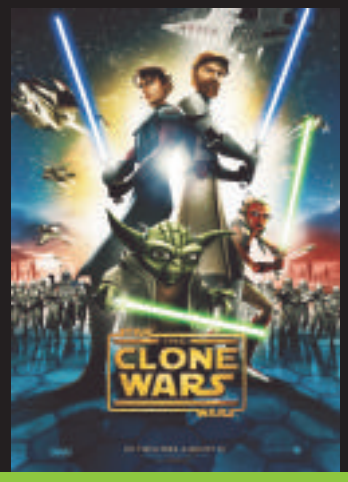

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Gettin' hitched
The Princess Diaries co-star Heather Matarazzo is engaged to Carolyn Murphy. STARMAGAZINE.COM

Teens love Jonas Brothers, Gossip Girl

Gossip Girl has six more reasons to say OMG. And so do the Jonas Brothers.

Both the sudsy CW show about tawdry prep-school students and the squeaky clean boy band won multiple trophies at Sunday's Teen Choice Awards. The awards, which were selected by more than 30 million votes cast online by teenagers, honour celebrities in TV, film, music, sports and fashion.

Gossip Girl won six Teen Choice Awards: TV drama, breakout show, breakout male actor Chace Crawford, breakout female and TV drama actress Blake Lively and TV villain Ed Westwick, who plays the antagonistic Chuck Bass.

Kevin, left, Nick, and Joe Jonas.

"I feel like I'm still a teenager because I'm perpetually in high school," Crawford said backstage. "And I'm 23."

The awards show at the Gibson Amphitheatre at Universal Studios Hollywood was hosted by 15-year-old teen queen Miley Cyrus, who picked up three awards. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Teen Choice Awards

- **Choice Movie Action Adventure:** The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian.
- **Choice Movie Drama:** Step Up 2: The Streets.
- **Choice Movie Chick Flick:** 27 Dresses.
- **Choice Movie Bromantic Comedy:** What Happens in Vegas.
- **Choice Movie Comedy:** Juno.
- **Choice Movie Horror/Thriller:** I Am Legend.
- **Choice Summer Movie Action Adventure:** Hancock.
- **Choice Summer Movie Comedy:** Get Smart.
- **Choice Movie Actor Drama:** Channing Tatum, Stop-Loss.
- **Choice Movie Actress Drama:** Keira Knightley, Atonement.
- **Choice TV Show Drama:** Gossip Girl.
- **Choice TV Show Action Adventure:** Heroes.
- **Choice TV Show Comedy:** Hannah Montana.
- **Choice TV Reality Music Competition:** American Idol.

A million-selling debut for final Twilight

BOOKS Harry Potter is still king, but the final book of Stephenie Meyer's Twilight series had a million-selling debut.

Breaking Dawn, the fourth of Meyer's teen vampire series, sold 1.3 million copies in the first 24 hours. The publisher has requested 500,000 more copies, making the total print run 3.7 million.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling sold 8.3 million copies in its first 24 hours in the U.S. alone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DVD picks

Shine A Light

Director: Martine Scorsese
Stars: Rolling Stones
Rating: PG-13

THERE'S NOTHING fresh about the Rolling Stones. It's not even a novelty to see the band on film, since there have already been more than a dozen Stones performance movies. Yet put them in New York's Beacon Theater with 3,000 fans, and conscript four-Oscar winning cinematographers and dynamic director Scorsese to capture the show, and the result explains why the Stones still lay claim to the title of World's Best Rock 'n' Band. With their well-chosen selection of guest players — Buddy Guy, Christina Aguilera and Jack White — there's even a reasonable facsimile of spontaneity. The musicianship is above reproach — especially the rhythm section of drummer Charlie Watts and bassist Darryl Jones, and the nimble fretwork of second guitarist Ronnie Wood.

The Counterfeiters

Director: Stefan Ruzowitzky
Stars: August Diehl, Karl Markovics, Devid Striesow
Rating: R

THE WINNER of this year's Oscar for Best Foreign-Language Film leaves no conscience unchallenged. A concentration camp drama based on historical events, it's the rare drama that blurs the line between light and dark. It's Ruzowitzky's retelling of The Devil's Workshop, the wartime memoirs of Adolf Burger, who was a member of Operation Bernhard, a secret Nazi project to bankrupt the economies of the U.S. and Britain. Extras include four deleted scenes, a director commentary and interviews that include revealing stories from the real Adolf Burger.

Nim's Island

Directors: Jennifer Flackett, Mark Levin
Stars: Abigail Breslin, Jodie Foster, Gerard Butler
Rating: PG

THE SLIM APPEAL for adults in this clunky kidpic is watching new child star Abigail Breslin upstage former child star Jodie Foster. Breslin is the title character in this adaptation of the novel by Wendy Orr. She's the daughter of adventurer/scientist Jack (Butler). The two live on a remote island. When dad goes missing, Nim sends an e-mail to Alex Rover, the author of Nim's favourite books. Alex turns out to be Alexandra (Foster), a recluse afraid of her own shadow, yet game enough to help. It's strictly kid stuff, but those who enjoy Nim's Island have a treasure box of extras to pick through.

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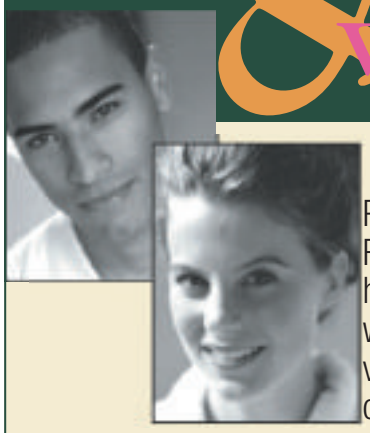

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Film Festival

Pop singer Madonna presented I Am Because We Are, her documentary about Malawi orphans, at Michael Moore's Traverse City film festival in her home state of Michigan on Saturday. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

Entertainment in brief

REALITY TV Canadian comedian Sean Cullen says he has no regrets about being on the American reality TV show Last Comic Standing, but he wishes voting rules could be changed to allow people outside the U.S. to support their homegrown talent. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Tracking the Madness

IntelleVision

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MAD ALL OVER (AGAIN): The only time my vacation felt like exile was when I realized I'd be missing the Season 2 premiere of AMC's Mad Men. Thankfully, this is 2008, not 1962, and the magic of the Internet will solve almost anything, though thanks to two weeks in the Nova Scotia countryside meant that I'd missed the final, fever pitch of the $8-million US promotional campaign AMC put behind the show.

It apparently paid off, with nearly two million viewers tuning in for the return of Don Draper and the men and women of Sterling Cooper, though the numbers for Sunday's episode will tell how many new pairs of eyes Mad Men has retained.

For all the praise the show has received — and the critical consensus following the season debut was almost universally agog — it has to be remembered that Mad Men's numbers are still a fraction of, say, the average audience for an episode of House. While the show's viewers are largely part of a demographic that advertisers crave — adult professionals earning more than $100K a year — it remains to be seen whether simple economics might see the show succeed itself right off the schedule, proving itself a luxury, not an asset, for AMC.

In the meantime, the show has become a cultural event, influencing fashion — Michael Kors' new line is openly influenced by the styles of the pre-Beatles early '60s, and department stores are scouring rental houses for Eames chairs and Herman Miller office furniture for their Mad Men windows — while the prominent placement of a book of poetry by Frank O'Hara rocketed the book thousands of spots up on amazon.com.

Disappointment is my constant friend, but I can't say creator Mark Weiner, the show's cast and writers have lapsed into complacency with the season's first two episodes. Set barely a year and a half in the future from Season 1's finale, there are few new characters, but it's obvious the women — especially the trio of Betty (January Jones), Peggy (Elizabeth Moss) and Joan (Christina Hendricks) — are going to feature more this season. The men of Mad Men haven't proved to be as fascinating overall, though Paul Kinsey's beard is clearly a harbinger of coming social turmoil. Still a brooding cipher despite the revelations of the first season, the show's nominal protagonist, Jon Hamm's Draper, doesn't have much to offer so far besides some incipient health problems.

By Sunday's episode, Vincent Kartheiser's oily, opportunistic Pete was yielding more abundant dramatic dividends, and it's hard to imagine him receding into the background, especially since he's one of the few employees of Sterling Cooper who, to quote Bob Dylan, doesn't need a weatherman to know which way the wind is blowing.

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 8/5/08	265	353	2	TVO	Into the Wild	Into the Wild	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Amazing Mrs. Pritchard		No Place Called Home		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Wipeout (N)		Big Brother 10 (N)		In Plain Sight (N)		News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Just-Gags	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	The Tudors "Episode 5"		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Hell's Kitchen		(9:01) I Survived a Japanese Game Show (N)				News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy!	Canadian Idol	Robson Arms	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Without a Trace (HDTV)		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Real Housewives		Simple Life	Kardashians	Pam: On Loose	Sunset Tan	News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama	Les Éclaireurs	Tournants de l'histoire		*Le Pacha* (1968, Drame policier) Jean Gabin.			Jardins	Geographic
	-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	*Not My Life* (2006, Suspense) Meredith Monroe.				To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	NCIS "Angel of Death"		Big Brother 10 (N)		Without a Trace (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Celebrity Family Feud		America's Got Talent (N)				News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Wipeout (N)		(9:01) I Survived a Japanese Game Show (N)				News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Celebrity Family Feud		America's Got Talent (N)				News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	Kitchen Nightmares (PA)		House (HDTV PA)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Keeping Up	Nova (DVS)		Day We Learned to Think		Wide Angle		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Beauty and the Geek		Reaper (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dr. Phil		News (N)	Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
	298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Beauty, Geek
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Mansbridge	The Hour		CBC News: The National		A Whale of a Tale		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		On the Money		Detroit Auto Show All Access		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	Air Racing From San Diego.		European Poker Tour		Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	MLB Baseball Oakland Athletics at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58	OLN	Exploration	Videos	Survivorman		Angry Planet	Surf Patrol	Adventures	Strand-Peters	Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks	Pass Time (N)	Unique Whips		Low Life	SuperCars	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Pinks
family	551	542	25	YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach (DVS)		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Tom & Jerry	Tom and Jerry	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	*Beavis and Butt-head Do America* (1996)		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Maxed Out	Style by Jury	Kim	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked		Maxed Out
	570	580	29	MM	So You Think You Can Dance		So You Think You Can Dance		Britney: Speared By the Paps		Instant Star	Instant Star	Gone Wild
	615	520	31	A&E	The First 48		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)		The Cleaner (HDTV) (N)		The Cleaner
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Palla al Centro (Parte 2 de 2)				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Uncovered	Listed		40 Hottest Hotties of the '90s				Listed
	575	583	38	CMT	Canada Countdown		Beyond Chance		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	CMT30
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis (HDTV)		Blue Murder		Trailer Park	Kenny-Spenny	CSI: NY (HDTV)		House
	620	523	40	BVO	Bazart	Bravo!Videos	Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller				Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	Til Debt-Part	Newlywed	In Laws	Shear Genius		Plastic-Perfect	Matchmaker	Newlywed
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Model Behavior"		*Hiroshima* ★★★ (1995, Drama) Lynne Adams.				NCIS "Model Behavior"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Inc.	Tom Green	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Dirty Business	Outside	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		The Stagers	Green Force	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	*Diary of a Mad Black Woman* ★★ (2005, Comedy-Drama) Kimberly Elise.					The Single: Monica		Seinfeld
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hell Date	*Nora's Hair Salon 2: A Cut Above* (2008, Comedy)				Baldwin Hills	Hell Date	Hell Date
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager		Blood Ties (DVS)		Battlestar Galactica		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Next	Cribs	Canada's Next Top Model		From G's to Gents		From G's to Gents (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	News Show	News Show	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Grill It-Flay	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		HEAT-McEwan	HEAT-McEwan	Top Chef "Improv"		Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	On the Buses	Quantum Leap		Jozi-H (DVS)		Mysterious
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Hollywood Sugar Mamas		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	The Wiggles	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Les Anges de la rénovation		Km/h (SC)	Caméra café	La Grande Évasion (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Courtepointe*
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	400 fois Qué	Grands reportages NSA. (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		True Murder	True Murder	Psychic Detect	Ext. Evidence	Traders		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	(7:15) *Dragon Wars* ★ (2007, Action) Jason Behr.				*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* ★★★ (2007, Fantasy)				
	305	612	306	PIX	*Frantic*	*Food of the Gods II* ★★ (1989, Horror)			*To Die For* ★★★ (1995, Comedy-Drama) Nicole Kidman.				*Cold Comfort*

critics' corner

Kitchen Nightmares

"Kids. I don't know what's wrong with these kids today ... ." It's great when the next generation joins the family business, not so great when they're jerks. That's the dilemma faced in this episode by the owner of a restaurant on New York's Long Island, whose son, the head chef, is alienating staff and customers alike. Time for Gordon Ramsay to play family counselor as well as restaurant reformer ... and dish up some tough love. 8 PM on FOX

Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller

If you didn't see it live on-stage, you can still get some of "Smokey Joe's" magic through this special, which records the final performance of the longest-running musical revue in Broadway history. Stars include Ken Ard, Adrian Bailey, Matt Bogart, Brenda Braxton, Victor Trent Cook, B.J. Crosby, DeLee Lively, Deb Lyons and Frederick B. Owens 8 PM on BVO

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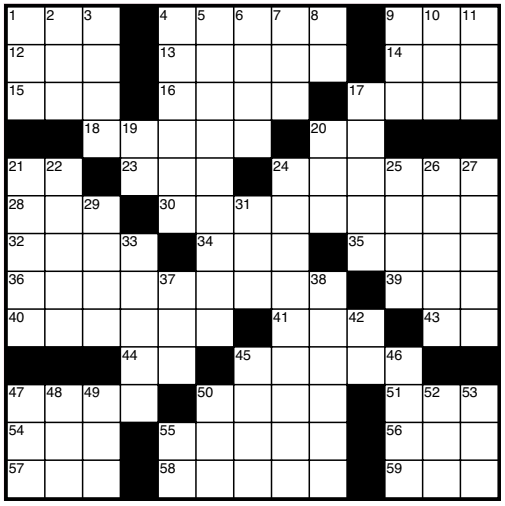
Bonet heading to Mars

Former Cosby Show star Lisa Bonet, right, is joining the cast of ABC's adaptation of the time-tripping U.K. cop drama Life on Mars. She will play Jason O'Mara's present-day girlfriend. EW.COM

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Palm off
2 Before
3 Tide type
4 Port near Pompeii
5 Popular analgesic
6 Eggy drinks
7 Roast beef au —
8 Love — first sight
9 News network
10 Coffee server
11 Philosopher — -tzu
17 Pass a bill
19 Doubtful answer
20 Excessively
21 Quay
22 Larger
24 Einstein's continuum
25 Frog cousin
26 Ohio Indians
27 Comes unglued
29 Dog in Oz
31 Prince Valiant's eldest
33 Thingamajig
37 Co. honcho
38 Tied the score
42 Cartoonist — Capp
45 Madonna ex
46 Id companions
47 Ballgame stat
48 Pet shop sound
49 Putter's org.
50 Letter before sigma
52 Meadow browser
53 Kitty's plaint
55 Blvd.

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Crossword across

1 Quagmire
4 Shogun's warrior
9 — -de-sac
12 Metal source
13 More or less
14 Brady Bill opposer
15 "Luck — — Lady"
16 Jowly canines
17 Cato's year
18 Lurid novels
20 Six-pointer
21 Poet — Auden
23 Sea, to Yves
24 Rather
28 Lean-to
30 Ongoing melodrama (2 wds.)
32 Psyched up
34 Monastery dweller
35 Branch
36 Reserve
39 Jeans go-with
40 Icy
41 A Gabor sister
43 Boat prefix
44 Yr. fraction
45 Stone monument
47 Injection
50 Bridle part
51 Topaz or opal
54 Equip
55 Embarrass
56 Have a mortgage
57 Hot spring
58 Firmed up, as muscles
59 Do alterations

previous day's answer

Y	A	M		P	A	C	K		R	A	F	T
E	R	A		O	P	A	L		A	S	I	A
L	E	I		P	E	R	M	A	N	E	N	T
L	A	D	L	E				A	S	A	N	
			A	S	H		W	H	O			
I	C	K	Y		O	B	I		M	A	L	T
R	O	O			I	A	N			G	O	A
K	N	I	T		S	A	C		M	E	A	N
			A	N	T		E	V	A			
	W	A	R	T				E	L	E	N	A
H	A	U	G	H	T	I	E	R		T	O	N
A	G	E	E		A	C	T	S		C	R	O
M	E	L	T		W	H	E	E		H	A	N

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Support is found for a proposed endeavour. You're seen as a force of nature. Progress is made in a passionate connection.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Critical mass is reached in relationship issues. Random acts of kindness will delight you. Electricity problems cause distress.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You will be as merry as the day is long. Don't be fooled by current events. Surprising notes are discussed.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Learn to fend for yourself. Someone's confusion will force you to think logically. Don't shut out the possibility of a complete cure.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Use your natural talent for making conquests. An annoying uncertainty crops up about a friend. Your dedication wins some points.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Good fortune comes to you. A pushy person makes himself at home. You'll be getting ahead in romance.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You'll back down quickly when you're wrong. Other people's selfishness gives you grief. The queen of denial is coming for a visit.

SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
An animated chat informs you of a performance. Get back to basics with a friend. A bad guy is intimidating because he has no respect.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
A man won't rest till a problem is fixed. A disappointment determines the end of a discussion. Losing something causes no pain.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A powerful image generates an investment strategy. A callous remark affects your mood. Be rational about bitter deeds.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
When others panic, you'll go with the flow. There's an amusing surprise in store. Meet with a traveller for help with a scheme.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
A man will try to do the right thing. Someone with integrity is a welcome addition. A wise guy trying to win a stupid game is humbled.

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Sudoku

	3	1		9	8	2		
	6				4			9
			1	7				
		4				8	7	
			5		3			
	2	5				9		
				5	6			
4			7				6	
		6	4	3		1	2	

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

5	1	7	6	9	2	4	8	3
4	6	8	1	7	3	5	2	9
9	2	3	5	4	8	1	7	6
2	8	5	9	6	1	7	3	4
3	9	4	8	2	7	6	5	1
1	7	6	4	3	5	2	9	8
8	3	2	7	1	4	9	6	5
6	5	1	2	8	9	3	4	7
7	4	9	3	5	6	8	1	2

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13. . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21. . . . . Smart
21-25. . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

more games metronews.ca

Toronto weather

Afternoon	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
60%			40%	70%
Thunder-storms. 26°	Variable. 18°	Partly cloudy. 27°/ 17°	Showers. 25°/ 15°	Showers. 24°/ 16°

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theweathernetwork.com

Temperature
Normals
High: 26.6°
Low: 14.3°

Records
High: 35°/1955
Low: 4.4°/1972

Sunrise: 6:12 a.m.
Sunset: 8:35 p.m.
Moonrise: 11:04 a.m.
Moonset: 10:23 p.m.

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Brad, Angelina introduce twins to world — at a price
Actors Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have shown off their month-old baby twins, Knox Leon and Vivienne Marcheline, for the first time in People magazine. The couple sold the rights to the first pictures to People for an estimated $14 million US. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Sharon pans Paris' fame

PEOPLE America's Got Talent judge Sharon Osbourne says Paris Hilton would never wind up on the hit NBC show, usmagazine.com reports. Why?

"She has no talent!" Osbourne, 55, told Parade.com. "I'm sure Paris would tell you that herself."

The only thing going for the 27-year-old hotel heiress?

"She's got a look that a lot of younger girls liked and copied," Osbourne said.

Hilton managed to gain fame because "the timing was right for her," Osbourne added. "A lot of younger women looked up to her. She's a very sweet, nice girl. But that's it. Then you put a full stop. It's over."

Hating on Hilton seems to be popular these days.

Actress Blake Lively recently told Seventeen magazine she can't stand when people say she resembles Hilton.

"It's a dumb thing to say," Lively said. "I don't think that makes Paris and me similar ... I don't go to clubs, I don't party, I don't dance on tables, and I don't like sex tapes."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Return to wife crushes Sienna

RELATIONSHIPS Actress Sienna Miller is said to be devastated after her alleged lover Balthazar Getty returned to his wife in a bid to save his marriage, imdb.com reports.

The Brothers + Sisters star, 33, confirmed he had split from his wife Rosetta after photos emerged of him frolicking with a topless Miller on a yacht off Italy's Amalfi coast last month.

But according to British newspaper The Daily Mail, Getty has returned to his wife and mother of his four kids, leaving Miller heartbroken.

"He ... was on the phone to Rosetta on and off for two hours, crying and constantly calling and she finally agreed to let him back in the house," a source tells the publication. "In his mind he has definitely dropped Sienna but he's in a very confused state at the moment. His biggest fear is losing his kids."

Getty says, "I can't comment. When I'm ready, I'll issue a statement. It's because of the children."

A spokesman for Miller has refused to address the reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Jess knew it wouldn't work with John

RELATIONSHIPS Jessica Simpson always knew she would split up with John Mayer because she felt destined to be with someone else, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The pop star broke up with ex-husband Nick Lachey in 2005 after three years of marriage.

"I was going through a lot of pain," she tells the new issue of Elle magazine. "I didn't try anything to change my life other than dating different types of guys and conforming to their worlds. I thought I had to be artsier, more intellectual ... John believed in the Jessica Simpson that's within. He cherished our love. He helped make me the woman I am today. John is going to be an amazing man for someone, but I know that I was supposed to be with someone else."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Britney not dating staffer, publicist says

RELATIONSHIPS Britney Spears' publicist has denied she is dating her minder after the pair were photographed enjoying a vacation together, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The superstar singer and a security guard, known only as Lee, were spotted last week on a Mexico beach, prompting rumours of a romance.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jake, Reese deny engagement

RELATIONSHIPS Reps for actors Reese Witherspoon and Jake Gyllenhaal are denying tabloid reports that the couple are engaged, People.com reports.

"They are not engaged, getting married or any of the reports," the reps said, calling the reports "lies."

Witherspoon, 32, and Gyllenhaal, 27, began quietly dating in April 2007. They recently were seen together in Paris with Witherspoon's kids.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

John Mayer helped make **Jessica Simpson** the woman she is today? OK, Jessica, I'm no therapist, but the first step in fixing what's broken is to stop pointing fingers at others and beginning to acknowledge your own personal responsibility in whatever disasters you have helped to create. This is true whether we're discussing your own life, or the Dukes of Hazzard movie.

Listen, I don't want to hear about Crazytown's front man getting clean and sober. I want my Crazytown in its original condition. Crazy! Like a town full of craziness. Listen up, **Shifty Shellshock**, there's a reason your band isn't called Well-Adjusted Village, or Level-headed Hamlet. Stay crazy or lose me as a fan!

Pamela Anderson's ban on closeups is only a stop-gap measure. She has doctors working round the clock on perfecting the first "head transplant." Now if only she could find a donor. I wonder if they froze **Jayne Mansfield**'s head? Could be a perfect match.

I pity **Boy George**. It's nice that he appears to have quit the junk, but inevitably someone's going to play his old Culture Club records for him. And that's more than anyone should be asked to endure without the aid of contraband substances.

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Surf's up for Christie
Supermodel Christie Brinkley has found a way to unwind after her high-drama divorce trial — surfing. She says hitting the waves has helped her to relax and remember her roots. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Boy George talks about drug use

PEOPLE Boy George only quit drugs at the end of last year, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Culture Club front man — who has revealed he used to be a heroin addict — says he spent much of the last five years taking illegal substances every day.

"I've been strung out on drugs for the last five years. But this time I'm clean for good. I don't want to die," he said. "I've spent five years in this chemical cloud. Getting clean at the end of 2007 was a very big thing. I was using half my brain, half my personality on drugs. One day I took a little and then I was on four grams a day. Up until six months ago, I had a really bad problem."

The singer has now vowed to stay clean for good.

"A friend took me to a Narcotics Anonymous meeting and I was like an old f—ing man. I could barely walk I'd been using so much f—ing drugs," he added to Q magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Pamela puts kibosh on closeups

TELEVISION Pamela Anderson has banned closeup shots of her face during filming of her new reality show, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 41-year-old actress is currently starring in Pam: Girl on the Loose and is reportedly worried about viewers being able to see her aging looks.

"Pamela still looks fantastic but is clearly determined to look as great as possible on the show," a source told Britain's Daily Express newspaper. "Producers have been informed she has to appear in only flattering lighting — and closeups on her face are apparently a no-no. Pamela has been around this game long enough to know the pitfalls of a bad camera angle."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

'Shifty' gives sobriety another shot

PEOPLE Crazytown front man Seth Binzer is having another go at sobriety after returning to the TV program Sober Living, imdb.com reports.

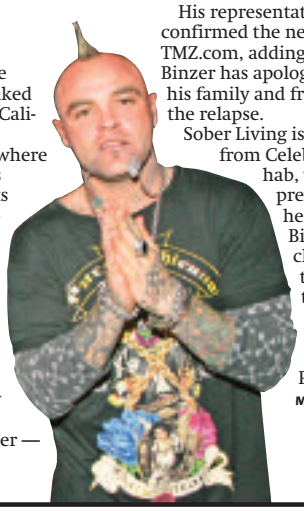
Late last month, the rocker walked out of the California mansion, where the show's contestants attempt to rebuild their lives without drink and drugs, and allegedly embarked on a heavy binge.

But Binzer — formerly known as Shifty Shellshock — has now re-entered the Sober Living house in an attempt to kick his habits once and for all.

His representative has confirmed the news to TMZ.com, adding that Binzer has apologized to his family and friends for the relapse.

Sober Living is a spinoff from Celebrity Rehab, which previously helped Binzer get clean with the assistance of addiction specialist Dr. Drew Pinsky.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Catherine's tryouts grate on hubby

MOVIES Catherine Zeta-Jones has annoyed husband Michael Douglas by speaking in a strong Scottish accent, imdb.com reports.

The actress plays a Scottish con woman in new movie Death Defying Acts.

And Zeta Jones has been working on her accent non-stop since landing the part and admits it has been frustrating for her actor husband.

"Michael is really fed up with it," she says. "When we are on the phone, I'll say 'Hello' in a Scots voice and he'll reply, 'It's me, enough already!' "

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Grey's writer axes tumour rumour

TELEVISION There will be plenty of heart-skipping developments come fall for Grey's Anatomy, but a brain tumour for Katherine Heigl's character Izzie Stevens won't be one of them, People.com reports.

Grey's Anatomy executive producer Shonda Rhimes says rumours of a medical crisis for Izzie are not true — but viewers can expect some "interesting sparks" between Alex and Izzie following their season finale hookup, E! News Online reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Mary-Kate won't talk about Heath

PEOPLE Mary-Kate Olsen has reportedly refused to be interviewed over the accidental drug death of her friend, actor Heath Ledger, unless she receives immunity from prosecution, imdb.com reports.

Federal agents are keen to speak to Olsen because she was the first person called after her masseuse discovered Ledger's body in his New York apartment in January.

Olsen "has refused to speak" and her lawyer, Michael Miller, reportedly claims she won't be interviewed "unless she gets immunity, exercising her constitutional rights."

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